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ADLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the district for the year 1952. Dr. R. C. Gubbins, as you are aware, resigned from his appointment as Medical Officer of Health to this District on the 31st December 1952, and you will appreciate that this report is on the year's working when he was your Medical Officer.

Some of the Vital Statistics submitted show rather large fluctuations, but it must be appreciated that when dealing with a small population, slight variations in actual figures become exaggerated when translated into rates per 1000, e.g. there were two more deaths of Infants under one year than in 1951 and this has resulted in the Infant Mortality Rate being more than doubled.

With regard to Infectious Diseases, it will be noted that there were 112 cases of Measles as compared with 66 in the previous year. Two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, both of which made complete recoveries.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Office,  
Market Place,  
ADLINGTON,  
Lancashire.



1st July, 1953.



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URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

VITAL STATISTICS 1952

Area	...	...	...	1062 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1952)	...	...	...	4073
Number of inhabited houses (Rate-Book)	...	...	...	1271
Rateable Value at 1/4/52	...	...	...	£18,328.
Product of 1d. Rate	...	...	...	£76-7-4d.

Births

		Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1000 population (Adjusted = 17.8).
Live Births - Legitimate	...	30	36	66	
Illegitimate	...	1	-	1	
Total	...	31	36	67	

Stillbirths	...	...	-	2	2	Rate per 1000 Live & Still-Births = .29.
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Deaths

Male	Female	Total	Death Rate per 1000 population (adjusted = 15.0).
29	31	60	

Death from Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality	...	...	Nil

Death of Infants under one year	...	2 Male ) 2 Female )	Total ... 4
Death of Infants under 4 weeks	...	1 Male ) 2 Female )	Total ... 3

All infants per 1000 live births (i.e. Infant Mortality Rate)	...	...	...	60
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Death from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	7
Death from Measles	...	...	...	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Nil
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	Nil

Causes of Death

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	5
Coronary Disease (Angina)	2	5
Heart Disease	8	11
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	-
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	3	1
Meningococcal Infections	-	1
Malignant neoplasms	4	3
Suicide	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	4
Ulcer of Stomach	1	-
	<u>29</u>	<u>31</u>



	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. regis- tered.	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 live births	Neo-natal	
Year 1952	67	16.4 *	60	14.7 *	2	29	Nil	Nil	4	60	3	45
Year 1951	68	17.0	52	13.0	1	14	Nil	Nil	2	29	2	29
Year 1950	60	14.9	50	12.4	4	63	Nil	Nil	4	67	4	67
Year 1949	80	20.0	43	10.8	4	48	Nil	Nil	1	13	-	-
Year 1948	63	15.7	55	13.7	1	15	Nil	Nil	5	79	-	-
Year 1947	80	20.6	54	13.9	2	24	1	12.19	1	12	-	-
Average 5 years 1947 - 1951	-	17.64	-	12.76	-	32.8	-	2.67	-	40	-	-

\* Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability Factor, 1.08) = 17.8 per 1000  
(death-rate (comparability Factor, 1.02) = 15.0 per 1000)





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

Medical Officer of Health:- Dr. R. C. Gubbins, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Sanitary Inspector (Part-time):- Robert Hilton, R.S.I. (Surveyor).

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological Department, Wigan Royal Victoria Infirmary.  
Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, University.

Ambulance Facilities

Provided by Lancashire County Council Ambulance Service.  
(Chorley Depot) - Telephone: Chorley 2744.

Nursing in the Home.

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is Nurse Holden, 6 Rivington Avenue, Adlington -  
Telephone: Adlington 394.

Treatment Clinics.

The "Minor Ailment" Clinic is held at 20 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, each Friday at 2 p.m.  
The School "Minor Ailment" Clinic is now held on Tuesdays at 2 p.m.  
Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye, etc.) are held at Chorley, and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status. Attendance is by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

The County Dispensary, 34 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.  
The County Tuberculosis Officer (Dr. Villiers) attends each Tuesday at 10 a.m. This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions other than tuberculosis.

Venereal Disease Clinics.

Held at Chorley and District Hospital, Wigan Infirmary and Bolton Infirmary.

Hospital Facilities.

For non-infectious cases - Chorley & District Hospital.  
Wigan Victoria Infirmary and Bolton Royal Infirmary.  
For infectious cases - Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.  
Tuberculosis - Sanatorium (50 beds) at Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.  
Smallpox - Smallpox Hospital at Finnington.  
All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Domiciliary Facilities.

There is one salaried Midwife, employed by the Lancashire County Council practising in the area.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal clinic at 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, and avail themselves of the excellent facilities provided by the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Service. These Clinics are held on Thursdays (at 9.30 a.m.)





and Fridays (at 10.a.m.) and are attended by consultant surgeons.

### Maternity Beds.

The available accommodation at Chorley is as follows:-

Chorley and District Hospital	...	120 beds.
Eaves Lane P.A. Institution	...	12 beds.

### Infant Welfare Centres.

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held weekly (Wednesdays (2-4 p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended fortnightly by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council as well as the County Health Visitor. Since July 1948 this Medical Officer has been Dr. R. C. Gubbins.

### Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. Ashley, 123 Bolton Road, Chorley.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

The water supply of the area is provided (1) from the Blackrod Reservoir (by the arrangement with the Blackrod U.D.C.) and (2) from a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester supply from Thirlmere (by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation). The water from both sources is adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality. Every house in the area has a "main supply". The average daily consumption is 93,800 gallons, which gives a consumption per head of 23.35 gallons daily. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

Only some 34 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. The sewerage disposal is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters at the Sewerage Disposal Works at Harrison's Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The Sewage Works was modernised in 1931. Extensions of sewers were undertaken in 1952 to new properties.

### Rivers and Streams.

These are inspected at intervals by the Inspectors of the Lancashire Rivers Board. Pollution continues, particularly by the local Dyeing Company. The necessary work to instal a suitable treatment plant for the effluent was commenced at the latter end of the year.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal.

1327 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority's vehicle. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites.

### Cleansing of drains and closets.

Closet accommodation:-

Privy middens:-	No. of Middens	...	10
No. of closets attached thereto		...	12
No. of Pail Closets		...	1
No. of freshwater closets		...	1597
No. of waste water closets		...	7

The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.



### Lavatories and Urinals.

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower Recreation Grounds and a public urinal near the Council Offices. These conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority.

### Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shop Acts or Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shop Acts, your Sanitary Inspector acting as their agent. The Sanitary Inspector made 101 visits to these premises during the year.

### Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area. One caravan is licensed for living purposes.

### Smoke Abatement.

No. of factory and Works chimneys in area	...	4
No. of observations taken during the year	...	83

No legal proceedings were undertaken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but personal contact with firms and their boiler personnel was maintained by the Sanitary Inspector.

### Disinfestation of Houses.

One house was found to be infested during 1952, and was duly dis-infested by your staff.

### Schools.

The water supply of the Schools is from the mains.

### Other Matters.

There are in the area no Common Lodging Houses or "Houses let in lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.

### Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited	...	...	839
No. of visits made to above	...	...	876
No. of nuisances discovered	...	...	265
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	249
No. of informal notices served	...	...	194
No. of Statutory Notices served...	...	...	14

There were no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances.

## HOUSING

No. of new houses erected during the year:-

(1) By Local Authority	...	14
(2) By other local authorities	...	-
(3) By other bodies or persons	...	5





1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(a) No. of houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	...	213
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	...	273
No. of houses included under sub-head (a) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	... ..	8
No. of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	-
No. of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	....	169

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notice.

No. of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	154
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3. Action under statutory Powers during the Year.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 :-

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	...	5
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No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notice

(a) by owners	... ..	-
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...	5

Proceedings under Public Health Act :-

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	14
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No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices :-

(a) by Owners	... ..	14
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...	-

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part 4 - Overcrowding.

No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	... ..	3
No. of families dwelling therein	... ..	5
No. of persons dwelling therein	... ..	27
No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	3
No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	1
No. of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	3

5. Housing Conditions.

Most of the houses in the area are of the "two up and two down" type, and lack baths or hot water supply. Like most of the sub-standard houses built some 80 years or more ago, they were well built and with reasonable maintenance are difficult to condemn as unfit for human





habitation, though the lack of damp courses causes a prevailing defect of dampness.

6. Housing Schemes.

During the year 14 houses were completed on Park Road Site. A contract for a further 38 houses on the same Site was entered into during the year. At the end of 1952, 51 houses were under construction.

7. Overcrowding or Housing Shortage.

34 applications for houses were received including 20 from families without separate homes. (Not all of these cases necessarily result in overcrowding, of course).

INFECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

The following number of milk traders were on the Register at 31st December 1952:-

Retail purveyors at 31st December 1952                      ...                      14

Two licences were issued by the County Council for the production of milk in the area under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

4 Supplementary Licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, for the sale of Pasteurised Milk, and one for the sale of Sterilised Milk.

32 samples of milk were taken for analysis for Tuberculosis, all were found to be satisfactory.

32 samples taken for Methylene Blue Reduction Test were found to be satisfactory.

7 samples submitted for Phosphatase Test were satisfactory.

(b) Meat.

The meat supply to the area is distributed from the Chorley public abattoirs (at present under the Ministry of Health) where there is 100% inspection of carcasses.

All Pigs killed for own use are slaughtered in two licensed Slaughterhouses in the district, and all carcasses are inspected. 14 Pigs were killed and inspected during the year. 14% of these carcasses were affected with Tuberculosis and parts of 2 carcasses were condemned.

(c) Other Foods,

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale are inspected frequently by your Sanitary Inspector.

There are 11 small bakehouses and 8 fried fish shops in the district - all kept in a satisfactory condition.

183 inspections of places where food is prepared were made during the year by your Sanitary Inspector.



## Unsound Food

During the year the following food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption :-

75	lbs.	Cooked Ham.
23	tins	Stewed Steak
5	tins	Lunch Tongue
11	"	Beef Loaf
32	"	Pork Luncheon Meat
15	"	Ham and Veal Loaf
6	"	Soup
10	"	Pilchards
14	"	Salmon
46	"	Peas
20	"	Beans
17	"	Evaporated Milk
7	"	Peaches
49	"	Plums
6	"	Raspberries
8	"	Cherries
16	"	Tomatoes

## Ice-Cream.

As a contribution to the heightened campaign for better and cleaner Ice-Cream, 69 visits to premises selling or manufacturing Ice-Cream were made by the Sanitary Inspector.

## Rodent Control

The following table gives the work done during the year:-

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural.	All other (inc. busin. premises).	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total no. of properties in Local Authority's district	4	1171	14	163	1352
No. of properties insp. by Local Auth. during 1952 as result of (a) notification (b) Survey or otherwise	a. - b. 44	54 340	- 14	- 141	54 499
No. of properties insp. (see above) found to be infested by rats	Major - Minor 4	- 101	- -	- 3	- 108
No. of properties insp. (see above) which were found to be seriously infested with mice	-	4	-	3	7
No. of infested properties (see above) treated by the Local Auth.	4	101	-	2	107

No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.





PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

During the year the following cases were notified :-

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>
Measles ...	112	66
Scarlet Fever ...	3	6
Whooping Cough ...	38	26
Pneumonia ...	5	9
Dysentery ...	2	4
Erysipelas ...	-	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	-

It is gratifying to note that this has been the 8th successive year without a Diphtheria case notified.

Tuberculosis

Three new cases of pulmonary and two new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the register during the year.

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis during the 12 months.

